RL 1

In the town are two bazaars: the Taranchi
361 one (in the fortress), and the Chinese (in
366 the outskirts). The bazaars differ from the Central Asian ones in that the stalls are somewhat more roomy and counters have been installed, which obstruct the entrance and divide the interior premises from the buyers. The bazaar streets are not covered above, as a result of which they are not protected from rain or heat. In the Chinese bazaar women often trade in the stalls, and here occasionally one sees flowers, a purely Chinese feature, since in the Central Asian Moslem towns the sale of flowers would be considered the height of absurdity.

• [265] In the Chinese part of town there are several restaurants at the bazaar in which those who wish can eat their fill for about 20 kopecks; the hungry man gorges himself on sweets. In these restaurants a remarkable variety of dishes is prepared. In order to enter a restaurant one must first pass through the kitchen, which is directly on the street to arouse the olfactory senses of the passer-by. In spite of the fact that the kitchens are kept very tidy and the preparation of the food is quite clean, a sharp and suffocating smell announces the presence of a restaurant at quite a long distance, and a European must have very strong nerves to bear this smell for very long.

[363] The main streets in town are paved with
[312] small stones. Aryks are laid out among them, nicely laid with brick. On the whole, the town is miserable and dirty, and the Chinese section is particularly dirty. However the movement of people is greater in the Chinese section, while in the Taranchi bazaar the staid Moslems sit sedately in their booths, yawning and